

Applicants : Tove Ringerike et al.
Serial No. : 10/577,268
Filed : April 26, 2006
Page : 2 of 9 of Amendment

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, lines 2-6 with the following amended paragraph:

-- According to the one of the embodiments of the present invention, unique cell lines were obtained and selected, which may serve to embody the method according to the present invention as well as being an example collection of cell lines according to the present invention. Said lines were deposited in the European Collection of Cell Cultures (ECACC), Health Protection Agency, Porton Down, Salisbury, SP4 0JG, United Kingdom. They are presented in Table III. Each of the cell lines listed in Table III was deposited in the ECACC on September 12, 2003.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, lines 11-15 with the following amended paragraph:

-- It was decided to clone promoter of IL-1 β instead of IL-1 α . The reason to change the original plan was the fact that unlike the sequence of the IL-1 α promoter, the entire DNA sequence of the murine IL-1 β promoter was available in genetic databases. Although there might be differences in transcriptional regulation of *IL-1 alpha* and *IL-1 beta* genes IL-1 α and IL-1 β act ~~through~~ through the same cell surface receptor, and have similar functions.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 25, lines 13-16 with the following amended paragraph:

-- For storage of the cell clones generated during the project a distinct room in the NIOM facility was assigned. To assure the free space needed for cell samples additional liquid nitrogen

Applicants : Tove Ringerike et al.
Serial No. : 10/577,268
Filed : April 26, 2006
Page : 3 of 9 of Amendment

cryogenic storage vessels were arranged. The standard protocol for collection and freezing of samples was elaborated. The control system of sample banking was prepared in ~~details~~ detail.-

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Please replace the paragraph on page 41, line 24 to page 42, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

--Work will start from providing all participants with the panel of reporter cell lines-the prototype of a cell chip assembled in ~~previes~~ previous examples. The standardized experimental protocol developed in Example 7 for performing such test will be implemented in all collaborating laboratories. All laboratories will next employ the same set of tested substances. In this example it will be used not only the set of xenobiotics with defined immunotoxic properties (see Table 2) but also a set of inert substances that are unlikely to have any immunotoxic effects *in vivo*. All the experiments will be performed with the entire set of reporter cell lines, the prototype cell chip. Collection of several patterns of response for these xenobiotic will allow to compare these patterns with available data. Comparison of patterns generated by model immunotoxins, substances that may be classified as irritants but do not posses immunomodulatory activity and control inert compounds will be performed. This analysis shall reveal if the new technology is capable to distinguish immunotoxins from other xenobiotics. Testing known and unknown (blind) samples of xenobiotic in parallel experiments will next be performed in all laboratories. A comparison of data obtained independently in participating laboratories will provide preliminary data on reproducibility of responses of reporter cell lines, and the sensitivity of this technology to minor differences in experimental protocols. It is desirable to obtain information in a format of "two dimensional"

Applicants : Tove Ringerike et al.
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Filed : April 26, 2006
Page : 4 of 9 of Amendment

pattern that describes the action of several "model xenobiotics"
(substances already known for their immunomodulatory activities
in vivo) on different genes in various cell lineages.--